

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's further Office Action of August 17, 2006 issued with respect to the present RCE application the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying terminal disclaimer and Amendment of the claims, and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

independent claim 1 is amended to correct a typographical error of "successful", to replace "it" with --the encrypted random number--, and to specify that a printer contains the trusted authentication chip and a printer consumable contains the untrusted authenticated chip. The specification as a whole provides ample basis for this amendment;

dependent claim 6 is cancelled;

dependent claim 11 is amended to replace "decrypted one" and "it" with --decrypted signature-- and --the encrypted random number--, respectively, and to specify that system includes a printer containing the trusted authentication chip and a printer consumable containing the untrusted authenticated chip, similar to amended independent claim 1; and

dependent claims 2, 4, 5, 7-9, 12-14 and 16-20 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the Amendment does not add any new matter to the present application.

Regarding Examiner's Note

It is respectfully submitted that the above-described amendments to claims 1 and 11 address the Examiner's concerns with respect to antecedent basis in these claims.

Regarding Double Patenting Rejections

Regarding Statutory Double Patenting Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the above-described amendment to claims 1 and 11 and cancellation of claim 6, together with an Amendment being concurrently submitted by the Applicant in copending Application No. 10/203,559 and an Amendment being concurrently submitted by the Applicant in copending Application No. 10/636,283, address

the provisional statutory double patenting rejections under 35 USC 101 over copending Application Nos. 10/203,559 and 10/636,283.

Regarding Non-Statutory Double Patenting Rejections

With respect to the Examiner's provisional non-statutory double patenting rejections of pending claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-14 and 16-20 over the various claims of copending Application Nos. 10/203,559 and 10/636,283, the Applicant submits herewith a Terminal Disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.321(c); the present application and US Application Nos. 10/203,559 and 10/636,283 being commonly owned by the Applicant.

Regarding Conflicting Claims

It is submitted that the above-described amendment to claims 1 and 11 and cancellation of claim 6, together with the above-mentioned Amendment being concurrently submitted in copending Application No. 10/203,559 and the above-mentioned Amendment being concurrently submitted in copending Application No. 10/636,283, address the Examiner's assertion of conflicting claims in the present application and copending Application Nos. 10/203,559 and 10/636,283.

Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections

The claims of the present application have been amended to specify an authentication protocol for a printer consumable, which authorizes use of the consumable in the printer if the authorization protocol provides a valid result.

Both Sony and Spies relate to providing secure transmission of messages between computers. In the prior art, there were already many known methods of encrypting messages transmitted between computers. Sony and Spies, therefore, merely describe an improvement of known communication encryption. It was an obvious measure for both Sony and Spies to improve upon known encryption methods in the context of secure transmission of information.

By contrast, the present invention relates to providing a secure environment for printer consumables. Hitherto, printer consumables (unlike information transmission) had no inherent security measures, other than a manufacturer's packaging. With the increasing complexity and sensitivity of inkjet printers (e.g. smaller, more densely packed nozzles with

lower firing energies), there is an increasing need to ensure that appropriate consumables are supplied to the printer. For example, an unauthentic ink having too high a viscosity may cause irreparable damage to a printhead meaning the printhead becomes inoperable or prints with only low print quality. This physical damage to the printhead will inevitably cause damage to the reputation of the printhead manufacturer, whose reputation is inextricably associated with the performance of its printers.

The present Applicant has recognized the need for inherent security measures in printers and printer consumables so as to maintain its reputation in the printer market. Security measures for secure transmission of information have been used for decades, but security measures in the form of authentication chips had not been previously proposed for printers and, more importantly, their consumables.

Accordingly, the Applicant submits that the present invention is not obvious in view of Sony or Spies. Neither document teaches or suggests security measures in printer consumables; both documents merely improve on *known* security measures in transmission of information between computers.

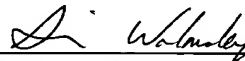
Further, it is respectfully submitted that Schneier does not provide any disclosure which makes up for the above-discussed deficiencies in Sony and Spies.

For these reasons, it is submitted that amended independent claim, and claims 2, 4, 5 and 7-10 dependent thereon, are not obvious in view of Sony, Spies and Schneier whether taken alone or in combination with one another.

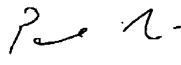
It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections and rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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